

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method for recording operations in a computer environment, said method
2 comprising:
3 saving initial conditions of said computer environment, said initial
4 conditions corresponding to an initial state of said computer environment; and
5 recording user inputs to said computer environment to produce a
6 recorded session of said operations in said computer environment.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said saving includes saving positional changes
2 of a cursor in said computer environment.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein said saving includes saving said initial
2 conditions of said computer environment in a first computer file, and wherein said
3 recording includes saving said user inputs to said computer environment in a second
4 computer file.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein said recording includes recording positional
2 information of said user inputs in said computer environment relative to a screen on
3 which said computer environment is being displayed.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein said recording includes recording timing
2 information of said user inputs.
- 1 6. The method of claim 1 further comprising editing said initial conditions of
2 said computer environment after said initial conditions have been saved.
- 1 7. The method of claim 1 further comprising editing said user inputs to said
2 computer environment after said user inputs have been saved.

1 8. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

2 assigning said recorded session to a graphic control device such that
3 said recorded session is replayed when said graphic control device is activated; and
4 embedding said graphic control device in an electronic document.

1 9. The method of claim 1 further comprising replaying said recorded session in a
2 replay computer environment using said user inputs such that said replay computer
3 environment is actively operated by said user inputs to replay said recorded session in
4 said replay computer environment.

1 10. The method of claim 9 wherein said replaying includes configuring said
2 replay computer environment using said initial conditions to a state that is
3 substantially identical to said initial state of said computer environment.

1 11. The method of claim 10 further comprising creating said replay computer
2 environment as a copy of a current computer environment from which replay of said
3 recorded session has been initiated.

1 12. The method of claim 11 wherein said creating includes positioning said replay
2 computer environment over said current computer environment.

1 13. The method of claim 9 wherein said replaying includes selectively delaying
2 said user inputs applied to said replay computer environment such that each of said
3 user inputs is processed before a subsequent user input of said user inputs can be
4 processed.

1 14. A method for replaying recorded computer operations, said method
2 comprising:
3 loading recorded initial conditions of a recorded computer
4 environment into a replay computer environment such that the state of said replay
5 computer environment is substantially equivalent to an initial state of said recorded
6 computer environment when said recorded computer operations were recorded; and
7 applying recorded user inputs to said replay computer environment in
8 said state to actively operate said replay computer environment as a replay of said
9 recorded computer operations.

1 15. The method of claim 14 wherein said applying includes applying recorded
2 positional changes of a cursor.

1 16. The method of claim 14 further comprising creating said replay computer
2 environment as a copy of a current computer environment from which replay of said
3 recorded session has been initiated.

1 17. The method of claim 14 wherein said creating includes positioning said replay
2 computer environment over said current computer environment.

1 18. The method of claim 14 wherein said applying includes selectively delaying
2 some of said user inputs applied to said replay computer environment such that each
3 of said user inputs is processed before a subsequent user input of said user inputs can
4 be processed.

1 19. The method of claim 14 further comprising displaying a graphic
2 representation of a control device to illustrate one or more of said recorded user
3 inputs.

1 20. A storage medium readable by a computer, tangibly embodying a program of
2 instructions executable by said computer to perform method steps for recording and
3 replaying operations in a computer environment, said method steps comprising:
4 saving initial conditions of said computer environment, said initial
5 conditions corresponding to an initial state of said computer environment; and
6 recording user inputs to said computer environment to produce a
7 recorded session of said operations in said computer environment.

1 21. The storage medium of claim 20 wherein said saving includes saving
2 positional changes of a cursor in said computer environment.

1 22. The storage medium of claim 20 wherein said saving includes saving said
2 initial conditions of said computer environment in a first computer file, wherein said
3 recording includes saving said user inputs to said computer environment in a second
4 computer file.

1 23. The storage medium of claim 20 wherein said recording includes recording
2 positional information of said user inputs in said computer environment relative to a
3 screen on which said computer environment is being displayed.

1 24. The storage medium of claim 20 wherein said recording includes recording
2 timing information of said user inputs.

1 25. The storage medium of claim 20 further comprising editing said initial
2 conditions of said computer environment after said initial conditions have been saved.

1 26. The storage medium of claim 20 further comprising editing said user inputs to
2 said computer environment after said user inputs have been saved.

1 27. The storage medium of claim 20 further comprising:
2 assigning said recorded session to a graphic control device such that
3 said recorded session is replayed when said graphic control device is activated; and
4 embedding said graphic control device in an electronic document.

1 28. The storage medium of claim 20 further comprising replaying said recorded
2 session in a replay computer environment using said user inputs such that said replay
3 computer environment is actively operated by said user inputs to replay said recorded
4 session in said computer environment.

1 29. The storage medium of claim 28 wherein said replaying includes configuring
2 said replay computer environment using said initial conditions to a state that is
3 substantially identical to said initial state of said computer environment.

1 30. The storage medium of claim 29 further comprising creating said replay
2 computer environment as a copy of a current computer environment from which
3 replay of said recorded session has been initiated.

1 31. The storage medium of claim 30 wherein said creating includes positioning
2 said replay computer environment over said current computer environment.

1 32. The storage medium of claim 28 wherein said replaying includes selectively
2 delaying said user inputs applied to said replay computer environment such that each
3 of said user inputs is processed before a subsequent user input of said user inputs can
4 be processed.

1 33. A storage medium readable by a computer, tangibly embodying a program of
2 instructions executable by said computer to perform method steps for replaying
3 recorded computer operations, said method comprising:

4 loading recorded initial conditions of a recorded computer
5 environment into a replay computer environment such that state of said replay
6 computer environment is substantially equivalent to an initial state of said recorded
7 computer environment when said recorded computer operations were recorded; and
8 applying recorded user inputs to said replay computer environment in
9 said state to actively operate said replay computer environment as a replay of said
10 recorded computer operations.

1 34. The storage medium of claim 33 wherein said applying includes applying
2 recorded positional changes of a cursor.

1 35. The storage medium of claim 33 further comprising creating said replay
2 computer environment as a copy of a current computer environment from which
3 replay of said recorded session has been initiated.

1 36. The storage medium of claim 33 wherein said creating includes positioning
2 said replay computer environment over said current computer environment.

1 37. The storage medium of claim 33 wherein said applying includes selectively
2 delaying some of said user inputs applied to said replay computer environment such
3 that each of said user inputs is processed before a subsequent user input of said user
4 inputs can be processed.

1 38. The storage medium of claim 33 further comprising displaying a graphic
2 representation of a control device to illustrate one or more of said recorded user
3 inputs.